

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095691

72

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 /100 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/IB:EMRABENOLD:MS

APPROVED BY EUR - WELLS STABLER

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P 090006Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095691

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF ROLE OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE

1. BOTH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST HAVE PUBLISHED ARTICLES REFERRING TO A 12-MAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE WHICH REPRESENTS A GROUP OF JUNIOR AND MIDDLE-GRADE OFFICERS IN THE MOVEMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES. TWO OF THE AMERICAN PROFESSORS SPECIALIZING IN PORTUGUESE AFFAIRS WHO ATTENDED A CONFERENCE IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY 6 ALSO HAD THIS INFORMATION FROM THEIR OWN SOURCES IN LISBON; THEY BELIEVED THE COMMITTEE IS CONTROLLING THE POLICIES OF THE JUNTA AT THIS TIME.

2. THE DEPARTMENT IS HANDICAPPED BY NOT HAVING THE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF THESE REPORTS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EVALUATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. RUSH

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